

From: [Seppi, Pat](#)
To: [Gowers, Joe](#)
Subject: Fwd: Moving Residents in Kent, but not in Ringwood?
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 6:42:57 AM

FYI...talk later....

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Edelstein, Michael" <medelste@ramapo.edu>
Date: April 13, 2020 at 11:01:13 PM EDT
To: "Seppi, Pat" <Seppi.Pat@epa.gov>, "Lopez, Peter" <lopez.peter@epa.gov>
Cc: "Chief Vincent Mann, Chief of the Turtle Clan" [REDACTED],
Judy Sullivan [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Moving Residents in Kent, but not in Ringwood?

Dear Peter and Pat,
To reinforce Judith Sullivan's point here, we have been documenting the fact that Upper Ringwood does not provide a habitable environment for the current residents, that this has been known since Superfund began but becomes clearer and clearer over time, that no competent Environmental Justice, Cultural, Health or Psycho-Social impact studies have been done by or required by EPA and that--as Ms. Sullivan notes---there is no equal protection for this EJ community in light of the new precedent of Kent. Therefore, the current Superfund process must remedy these deficiencies and enable a safe and fair relocation of the Upper Ringwood residents. Given the uninhabitability in Upper Ringwood, we have been working on a plan for the relocation of the Turtle Clan to a nearby uncontaminated property. It is my opinion, based on 45 years of expert work related to the human consequences of environmental contamination, that EPA cannot legitimately proceed to a final order with the PRPs until the deficiencies are corrected and/or a relocation planned by the affected Clan is put into the order. We are happy to work with you on the substance of these issues.

Mike

Michael R. Edelstein, Ph.D.

Professor of Environmental Psychology and head of the Environmental Studies and Sustainability Program

On Mon, Apr 13, 2020 at 5:47 PM Judy Sullivan

<[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Ms. Seppi,

Once again we are studying the Ringwood Mines Superfund's Site as part of a local college program of studies. I represented to the students I would ask you, as the community liason, for both Superfund sites, why residents are being moved from the site in Kent, NY and new homes are being purchased for them by the EPA (or under its

directive), but the residents of Upper Ringwood are not being offered this protection. They asked does this violate the equal protection laws of the United States. I did not have an answer. Do you?

Why are the residents of Kent being offered this option, but the residents of Upper Ringwood are not being offered such an option? Surely potable water is an issue, but what about air?

Judy Sullivan



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Mike

Michael R. Edelstein, Ph.D.

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